

STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS
CORPS of ENGINEERS SPECIFICATIONS STEERING COMMITTEE (CSSC)
(April 5, 2000)

1. Recommendation No. 1 (June 1996): Recommend SPECSINTACT be made fully SGML compliant.

EG&G (now Information Dynamics, Inc.), advised at the 4-6 March 1997 meeting of the CSSC that this is being done but will be completed over the next few years as a lesser priority item of work.

2. Recommendation No. 2 (August 1996): Recommend that the course of instruction for the PROSPECT course, Specifications for Construction Contracts, include four hours of hands-on instruction on SPECSINTACT.

The course of instruction for the subject PROSPECT course now includes four hours of instruction on SPECSINTACT. However, the instruction is not hands-on due to the costs involved in providing access to computers for course attendees.

3. Recommendation No. 3 (August 1996): Recommend that HQUSACE provide one day of training on SPECSINTACT in each MSC.

Spec Consultants provided 2 days of training on SPECSINTACT in each MSC during FY97.

4. Recommendation No. 4 (August 1996): Recommend that HQUSACE update or develop, as appropriate, the following civil works guide specifications in the following priority: (1) Dredging, (2) Levees, (3) Drainage Structures Through Levees and Small Dams, (4) Concrete Restoration, (5) Rock Anchors and Soil Anchors, (6) Cathodic Protection for Lock Miter Gates, (7) Placement of Concrete for Concrete Slurry Cut-off Walls, (8) High Mast Lighting, and (9) Lubricating Systems for Flood Control Pumping Stations.

(1) CECW-OD, proponent of the dredging guide specification, does not support update of the subject guide specification. Therefore, the old dredging guide specification will not be maintained. In April 2000 the CSSC again polled districts to determine the need for update of this guide specification; results are not finalized at this time.

(2) The guide specification on levees (02331) has been completed, has been converted to SPECSINTACT, and is available on TechInfo.

(3) A guide specification on Drainage Structures through Levees and Small Dams (02300) is being converted to SPECSINTACT format and should be available in the near future.

(4) A guide specification on Concrete Rehabilitation is currently under development by Pittsburg District, Engineer Research and Development Center, and HQUSACE (M.K. Lee).

(5) A guide specification on Rock and Soil Anchors is currently under development by Pittsburg District and should be completed in the very near future.

(6) The guide specification on Cathodic Protection for Lock Miter Gates (16643) has been updated. It is currently being converted to SPECSINTACT format and should be available in the very near future.

(7) Since a guide specification for Placement of Concrete for Concrete Slurry Cut-Off Walls would not have broad application, development of such a guide specification was given low priority.

(8) IES Roadway Lighting Standard RP-8 will be utilized in lieu of a guide specification on High Mast Lighting.

(9) Requirements in the guide specification on Lubricating Systems for Flood Control Pumping Stations have been incorporated into the guide specification for Vertical Pumps, Axial Flow and Mixed Flow Impeller Type.

Additional Work on Guide Specifications to Date:

- (1) The guide specification on Stone Protection (02380) has been completed and is available on TechInfo. It addresses stone protection requirements for channels, shoreline and coastal areas.
- (2) Guide specifications on Reinforced Soil Slope (02332) and Segmental Concrete Block Retaining Wall (02832) have been completed and are available on TechInfo. ETL's on the application of the two above guide specifications are currently under development by St. Paul District.
- (3) The guide specification on Gabions is being updated to incorporate results of recent study on twisted wire versus welded wire gabions.
- (4) Guide specifications on Miter Gates, Tainter Gates, and Tainter Valves will be updated to incorporate Fracture Critical Member requirements after update of EM 1110-2-2105 is completed.
- (5) The guide specification on Metallizing Hydraulic Structures (09971) is being updated by CERL.
- (6) Work on updating the guide specification on Roller Compacted Concrete for Mass Concrete Construction (03701) will begin in the near future.
- (7) New guide specifications on Instrumentation and Control (16900), Programmable Logic Controller (16910), and Industrial Personal Computers (16920) have been developed by CERL and are now being converted to SPECSINTACT format; they should be available on TechInfo soon.
- (8) A new guide specification on Closeout Submittals (01780) has been completed and is now available on TechInfo.

5. Recommendation No. 5 (December 1996): Recommend that HQUSACE appoint a POC and establish a process to update the CW engineering criteria currently on the CCB CD-ROM and continue oversight of the CW engineering criteria that is put on CCB CD-ROM.

HQUSACE (IM) now maintains a database of most recent CW publications and the engineering criteria portion of the database is provided to NIBS quarterly for inclusion on the CCB CD-ROM.

6. Recommendation No. 6 (December 1996): Recommend that the new Engineer Regulation on Specifications Engineering mandate the use of SPECSINTACT for CW projects with a one year transition period beginning when the ER is issued.

The recommendation was incorporated into Civil Works ER 1110-2-1201, Specifications Engineer, which has now been superceded by joint Engineer Regulation ER 1110-1-8155, Specifications, 24 December 1998, which mandates the use of SPECSINTACT for the production of both Civil Works and Military Programs project specifications; the only exception being overseas areas.

7. Recommendation No. 7 (December 1996): Recommend that the SPECSINTACT Interagency Configuration Control and Coordinating Board (SICCCB) develop an automated amendment process in SPECSINTACT.

Mr. Steve Freitas, Sacramento District, briefed the SICCCB on a proposed method to automatically generate amendments in SPECSINTACT. The SICCCB has tabled action on the proposed method until development of the 32-bit SPECSINTACT version is complete. Additionally, in March 1999 the CSSC submitted a work project to the WES Tri-Service CADD/GIS Center to

incorporate this method in Electronic Bid Solicitations (EBS). The Tri-Service CADD/GIS Center received \$10,000 for this work project that will be utilized to develop a method to automatically generate amendments in SPECSINTACT.

8. Recommendation No. 8 (March 1997): Recommend that the SPECSINTACT Interagency Configuration Control and Coordinating Board (SICCCB) modify the SPECSINTACT print option to provide a new option to append the section to the section table of contents and produce a single print file for each specification section.

The SICCCB has adopted and implemented the subject recommendation.

9. Recommendation No. 9 (March 1997): Recommend that the charter of the CW Specifications Steering Committee be expanded to include Military Programs and HTRW in order to develop joint ER on Corps specifications, policies and issues and to make joint decisions to implement policies and resolve issues.

The CW Specifications Steering Committee is now the Corps Specifications Steering Committee operating as a joint Civil Works and Military Programs committee. ER 1110-1-8155, Specifications, a joint ER for Civil Works and Military Programs, and ER 15-1-41, Corps of Engineers Specifications Steering Committee, were published 24 December 1998.

10. Recommendation No. 10 (March 1997): Recommend that PARC not rescind Instruction Letter 92-4 but adopt it as supplement to EFAR in regard to format for Corps construction contracts.

The recommendation was rejected by the PARC.

11. Recommendation No. 11 (March 1997): Recommend that the Corps organize another Corps-wide Specifications Training Conference within the next year.

The Corps of Engineers Specifications Workshop 2000 was held 29 February - 1 March 2000 in San Antonio, Texas. The next Corps-wide Specifications Workshop is tentatively planned for FY 2003.

12. Recommendation No. 12 (January 1998): Recommend that HQUSACE express to Society for American Military Engineers (SAME) and Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) its support for establishment of a federal specifications competition with appropriate awards.

At the June 1999 meeting of the CSSC, Ray Duncan, Specs Consultants, proposed evaluation criteria for the CSI/SAME federal specifications competition. Both CSI and SAME national organizations have approved the competition. Implementation will occur during the remainder of FY99 and the first year of competition should be FY2000.

13. Recommendation No. 13 (September 1998): Recommend that HQUSACE execute a USACE-wide contract for purchase of electronic information services for reference standards and vendor products to be accessible on the Internet. Further recommend that HQUSACE give this action high priority.

In February 1999 three vendors of electronic information services (Information Handling Services, ILI, and USA Information) briefed HQUSACE IM on options and costs. HQUSACE IM is seeking information to establish baseline information requirements for the districts as well as

possible options for this procurement. The CSSC queried the districts requesting the required information, consolidated the responses and forwarded the information to HQUSACE in July 1999. HQIM is currently working the initiative and anticipates that a Corps-wide contract should be in place by FY 2001.

14. Recommendation No. 14 (February 1999): Recommend that HQUSACE implement a policy whereby items of work under Guidance Update Program to update or develop engineering criteria and guidance also include requirements for concurrent update or development of Corps of Engineers Guide Specifications (CEGS) and other related engineering documents which implement the new engineering criteria.

HQUSACE has advised that the recommendation is being implemented under the Standards and Criteria and Guidance Maintenance Programs. The Technical Policy Branch has been given oversight responsibility and the HQUSACE POC is Mr. Rick Dahnke.

15. Recommendation No. 15 (June 1999): Recommend that HQUSACE investigate the feasibility of combining thirteen (13) pairs of similar Civil Works and Military Programs Corps of Engineers Guide Specifications (CEGS) into joint CEGS. The thirteen pairs are:

- (1) 01354 Environmental Protection for Civil Works (CW)
01410 Environment Protection (MP)
- (2) 02233 Clearing (Timber and Structure) (CW)
02230 Clearing and Grubbing (MP)
- (3) 02261 Soil-Bentonite Slurry Trench Cutoff (CW)
02260 Soil-Bentonite Slurry Trench for HTRW Projects (MP)
- (4) 02378 Geotextiles Used as Filters (CW)
02373 Separation/Filtration Geotextile (MP)
- (5) 02453 Prestressed Concrete Piling for Civil Works (CW)
02454 Precast Concrete Piling (MP)
- (6) 02463 Steel H-Piles for Civil Works (CW)
02456 Steel H-Piles (MP)
- (7) 02461 Round Timber Piles for Hydraulic Structures (CW)
02457 Round Timber Piles (MP)
- (8) 03101 Formwork for Concrete (cw)
03100 Structural Concrete Formwork (MP)
- (9) 03151 Expansion, Contraction and Construction Joints in
Concrete for Civil Works (CW)
03150 Expansion Joints, Contraction Joints and Waterstops
(MP)
- (10) 03201 Steel Bars and Welded Wire Fabric for Concrete
Reinforcement for Civil Works (CW)
03200 Concrete Reinforcement (MP)
- (11) 03301 Cast-in-Place Structural Concrete for Civil Works (CW)
03300 Cast-in-Place Structural Concrete (MP)
- (12) 03307 Concrete for Minor Structures (CW)
None (Make joint guide specification)
- (13) 14211 Elevators, Electric, for Civil Works (CW)
14210 Elevators, Electric (MP)

Work on combining pair (1) is already in progress. HQUSACE has advised that the remaining pairs will be combined during their next scheduled update, as funds become available.